

REMARKS

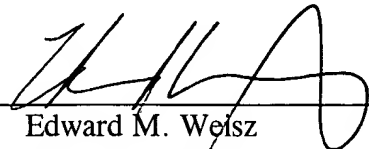
This Amendment is submitted in response to the April 6, 2004 Office Action.

Of the pending claims 1-38, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 and 13-19, has indicated that claims 25-38 are allowed and has indicated that claims 8-12 and 20-23 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended to include the limitations of any base claim and any intervening claim. In response, applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 8 and have replaced those claims with new independent claim 39. Accordingly, it is believed that new independent claim 39 is allowable for at least the same reasons as now-cancelled claim 8. The dependencies of claims 2-7 and 9-12 have been changed, where appropriate. Claims 13 and 20 have also been cancelled and have been replaced with new independent claim 40. It is believed that new independent claim 40 is allowable for at least the same reasons as now-cancelled claim 20. The dependencies of claims 14-19 and 21-23 have been changed, where appropriate. In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for immediate allowance.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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